

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A Solution composition for colouring a ceramic framework, the composition comprising:
  - a) a solvent[.,,];
  - b) a metal salt or metal complex, soluble in the solvent, wherein the amount of the metal ions in the solution composition is in the range of 0[.,,].01 to 7[.,,].0% by weight[.,,];  
and
  - c) polyethylene glycol having a Mn in the range of 10,000 to 50,000 in an amount of 1 to 8% by weight of the total composition[.,,];
  - ~~d) optionally a stabilizer,~~

wherein the metal salt is selected from rare earth elements and/or of the subgroups of the rare earth elements and/or salts of transition metals of the groups IIIA, IVA, VA, VIA, VIIA, VIIIA, IB, IIB.

2. (new) The composition of claim 1 further comprising a stabilizer.

[[2]]3. (currently amended) The composition of Solution ~~according to~~ claim 1, wherein the solution has a viscosity comparable to an aqueous polyethylene glycol solution ~~[[()]]~~ that is 6% by weight of polyethylene glycol 35,000 (Mn= 14[.,,].000 to 19[.,,].000) at 23°C.

[[3]]4. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 ~~Solution according to anyone of the preceding claims,~~ wherein the solvent further comprises water, methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, n-propyl alcohol, acetone, glycol, or glycerol alone or in admixtures thereof.

[[4]]5. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 ~~Solution according to anyone of the preceding claims,~~ wherein the anion of the metal salt or metal complex is selected from  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$ ,  $\text{I}^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$ , or  $\text{NO}_3^-$ .

[[5]]6. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 ~~Solution according to anyone of the preceding claims~~, wherein the metal salt or metal complex contains elements selected from La, Pr, Er, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu or Mn.

[[6]]7. (currently amended) The composition of claim 1 ~~Solution according to anyone of the preceding claims~~, further comprising an additive[[s]] selected from the group consisting of stabilizers, complex builders, beating additives buffers or thixotropic substances.

[[7]]8. (currently amended) A [[P]] process for obtaining a coloured ceramic framework, the process comprising the steps

- a) providing a ceramic framework;
- b) providing [[a]] the solution composition of claim 1; as described in anyone of the preceding claims.
- c) treating the ceramic framework with the solution composition of b); and
- ~~d) optionally drying the treated ceramic framework~~
- [[e]] d) firing the treated ceramic framework.

9. (new) The process of claim 8, further comprising the step of drying the treated ceramic framework after it has been treated with the composition.

[[8]]10. (currently amended) The [[P]] process according to claim [[7]]8, wherein the ceramic framework is treated with the solution composition for about 1 to 5 minutes at room temperature.

[[9]]11. (currently amended) The [[P]] process according to claim ~~7 or 8~~, wherein the firing takes place for a ZrO<sub>2</sub> based ceramic at a temperature above 1300°C and lasts for at least 0[[,]]5 h and for a Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> based ceramic at a temperature above 1350°C and lasts for at least 0[[,]]5 h.

[[10]]12. (currently amended) The [[P]] process according to claims ~~7 to 9~~ 8, wherein the firing takes place at a temperature above about 1300 °C.

[[11]]13. (currently amended) The [[P]] process according to anyone of claims ~~7 to 10~~ 8, wherein colouring the ceramic framework is ~~achieved~~ treated with the composition by dipping the framework into the composition solution ~~or applying the solution to the framework is achieved by spraying, brushing or by using a sponge or fabric to apply the composition.~~

[[12]]14. (currently amended) A [[C]]ceramic framework, treated with the composition of a solution as described in anyone of claim[[s]] 1 to 6.

[[13]]15. (currently amended) The [[C]]ceramic framework according to claim [[12]]14, wherein the ceramic is presintered and adsorbent.

[[14]]16. (currently amended) A [[C]]ceramic framework, obtainable from [[a]]the process as described in anyone of claims 7 to 11 8.

[[15]]17. (currently amended) A [[C]]ceramic framework according to ~~anyone of claims 12 to 14~~ comprising  $\text{ZrO}_2$  or  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .

[[16]]18. (currently amended) ~~Use of a solution as described in anyone of the~~ A method for colouring a ceramic framework, the method comprising the step ofclaims 1 to 6 ~~for treating~~ [[a]]the ceramic framework with the composition of claim 1.

[[17]]19. (currently amended) A method of ~~Use of a solution as described in anyone of the claims 1 to 6~~ for reducing the sintering deformation of ceramic framework during firing, the method comprising the step of treating the framework with the composition of claim 1.

[[18]]20. (currently amended) The method of ~~Use according to claims 16 or 17~~ 18, wherein the ceramic framework is selected from presintered bodies comprising  $\text{ZrO}_2$  and/or  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .

21. (new) The method of claim 19, wherein the ceramic framework is selected from presintered bodies comprising  $\text{ZrO}_2$  and/or  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .